UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/923
7 October 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 6 OCTOBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF QATAR TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that the Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, convened at United Nations Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 1 October 1998, considered, among other matters, the latest developments in Kosovo province.

The meeting participants expressed their deep concern over the gravity of the situation in the area affecting international peace and security and adopted a Declaration on Kosovo, the text of which is presented in the annex to the present letter for your perusal. I would draw attention to paragraph 4 of the Declaration, which calls upon the Security Council to convene an emergency meeting to take the necessary measures under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

I would be grateful if the present letter and the enclosed Declaration on Kosovo could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nassir Abdul Aziz AL-NASSER
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar
Chairman of the Islamic Group

Annex

Declaration on Kosovo issued by the Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on 11 Jumada II, 1419H (1 October 1998)

The Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), held in New York on 11 Jumada II, 1419H (1 October 1998),

Having discussed with deep concern the latest developments in Kosovo province,

Expressing its deep concern over these grave developments, which affect international peace and security,

1. Expresses its full solidarity with the inhabitants of Kosovo province;

2. Strongly condemns the policy of ethnic cleansing pursued by the Serbian Government against the inhabitants of the province;

3. Mandates the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina to also follow up the situation in Kosovo;

4. Calls upon the Security Council to convene an emergency meeting to take the necessary measures under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations to ensure the protection of the lives and property of the inhabitants of the province, and to compel the Serbian authorities to desist from their repressive practices against them and to settle the crisis through peaceful means;

5. Urges member States and the international community to extend all possible humanitarian assistance to alleviate the suffering of the inhabitants of Kosovo province.